

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TAGS: AORG, UN

SUBJECT: UN ADMINISTRATION - JIU PROGRESS ON EVALUATION

REF: STATE 043745

1. DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN ADVANCING THE "SUBJECT" OF EVALUATION AND CONDUCTING "OPERATIONAL" EVALUATIONS ITSELF, SOHM SEES THE WORK OF THE JIU PROGRESSING NOW ALONG THESE TWO MAIN TRACKS: (A) ASSISTANCE TO AGENCIES IN DEVELOPING THEIR INTERNAL EVALUATION MACHINERY; AND (B) SPECIFIC AD HOC EVALUATION OF SITUATIONS BY THE JIU.

2. ON THE FIRST HE FINDS THAT HIS REPORT ON EVALUATION IN THE UN SYSTEM IS BEING WELL RECEIVED, WHILE SERIOUS EFFORTS ARE BEING BROUGHT TO FRUITION WITHIN AGENCIES. ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNAL SYSTEM IS NEARING COMPLETION IN ILO, AND ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL BLANCHARD HAS INVITED JIU TO EVALUATE IT ONCE IT IS OPERATIONAL. UNESCO IS BEGINNING TO SET UP ITS INTERNAL PROGRAM. WHO DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS FIELD ARE FAR ADVANCED. (MISSION WOULD DRAW THE DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION TO WHO DOCUMENT EB 60/20.) US SUCCESS IN MOVING A NUMBER OF LIKE-THINKING AMERICANS INTO KEY POSITIONS IN EVALUATION ACTIVITY APPEARS

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TO BE HAVING AN IMPORTANT INFLUENCE ON THE PROGRESS NOW BEING SEEN.

3. AS FOR THE JIU'S OWN EVALUATIONS, FOUR MAIN STUDIES ARE PLANNED IN THE 1978 PROGRAM OF WORK: (A) AN EVALUATION IS TO BE MADE OF THE STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT OF ESA (BY BERTRAND AND ONE OTHER INSPECTOR) WHICH IS LOOKED

TOWARD AS A POSSIBLE BENCHMARK STUDY AGAINST WHICH THE OPERATION OF OTHER (AND PRESUMABLY LESS WELL-RUN) DEPARTMENTS SUBSEQUENTLY CAN BE MEASURED. (B) A NOVEL AND AMBITIOUS EVALUATION WILL BE BEGUN IN 1978 ATTEMPTING TO ASSESS ALL UN SYSTEM ACTIVITIES BEING CONDUCTED IN A SINGLE COUNTRY (YET TO BE SELECTED) IN WHICH SOHM AND OTHERS WILL PARTICIPATE. (C) JIU HAS ACCEPTED A REQUEST BY UNFDAC TO EVALUATE SOME OF ITS PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO THEIR INTERNAL EVALUATION MACHINERY, THE UNFDAC ROLE ITSELF, SPECIFIC KEY PROGRAMS (EXAMPLE, THAILAND), AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF AT LEAST ONE OF ITS REGIONAL OFFICES. (D) AT THE REQUEST OF ACC THE JIU WILL LOOK OVER THE WORK PROGRAM OF THE IOB WHICH, WHILE NOT TRULY AN EVALUATION, WILL ATTEMPT TO ASSESS WHETHER THE IOB HAS NOW BEEN TURNED AROUND AND WHETHER IT HAS POTENTIAL.

4. SOHM REGARDS THE ACC COMMENTS ON HIS REPORT (E/1978/12) AS HIGHLY POSITIVE ON THE WHOLE, ESPECIALLY IN THEIR SUPPORT OF ITS TWO KEY RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO A GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNAL EVALUATION SYSTEMS (PARAS 18B AND F OF THE REPORT). VANDEN HEUVEL

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